



RESPONSIBLE REFORM FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS DEMOCRATS.SENATE.GOV/REFORM

Vermont: The Cost of Inaction

Vermont Families Suffer

Vermont insurance premiums skyrocket

- ✓ In 1999, family health insurance purchased through an employer cost \$6,358.
- ✓ In 2006, the same family health insurance cost \$11,631.
- ✓ By 2016, the same insurance is projected to cost \$24,747, a 113 percent increase over 2006, which will consume 42.8 percent of projected Vermont median family income.

More uninsured Vermonters

- ✓ Every day, 30 Vermonters lose their health insurance.
- ✓ During the last two years, 136,000 Vermonters under age 65 went without health insurance for some time, which is 25.8 percent of the under 65 population.
- ✓ In 2007, 66,140 Vermonters under age 65 were uninsured for the entire year, which is 12.3 percent of the under 65 population.

Vermonters pay higher premiums due to the uninsured

- ✓ Vermont families pay a “hidden tax” of \$500 on their health insurance premiums due to the unpaid costs of care for the uninsured.

Fewer choices due to consolidated market

- ✓ The two largest health insurance companies in Vermont have a combined market share of 90 percent.

Vermont Businesses Suffer

Fewer Vermonters have health coverage at work

- ✓ In 2002, 63.9 percent of Vermonters under age 65 had employer-sponsored health insurance.
- ✓ In 2007, 61.9 percent of Vermonters had coverage through their employer.

Vermont Economy Suffers

Health care spending climbs

- ✓ In 2004, Vermont spent \$3.8 billion on health care.
- ✓ This spending level represents \$6,069 per capita, and is 16.2 percent of the Gross State Product.

Lost economic output of the uninsured due to shorter lives and poorer health

- ✓ This year, the Vermont economy will lose \$190 million - \$380 million due to the shorter lives and poorer health of the uninsured.